

ΛΗΜΜΑΙΝ ΕΥΙΣΘ ΕΟΝΝΑΕΤ
ΑΝ ΛΕΑΤ-ΜΑΝΝ



ΑΝ ΣΗΑΟΙΒΙΝ ΔΟΙΒΙΝΝ
.1. ΟΥΒΣΛΑΡ ΔΕ Η-ΙΘΕ



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SONGS OF CONNACHT.

THE HALF-RANN.

PB

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1922

TO m' ÉARADÓ SEÁGÁN Ó CUINN
AN LEABAR SO.

TO MY FRIEND JOHN QUINN
THIS LITTLE BOOK.

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Amháin Chúize Connacht

an leat-rann

tuobhtas de h-íde

(An Cmaidín)

Do bairig.

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m á r t a n l e s t e r, t t a.

SEAN-RÁRÓTE I BPOIRM LEAC-RAINN.

Ní'l don éine eile san Eórp, com fáda agus ip eól
 dam-ra, aet amáin na Spáinnig, b'éirip, atá tugta do
 fean-rárótiú agus do fean-foclaiú mar atá na Saeóil.
 Don duine a bfuil an Saeóealig aige ó'n scliaabán, bíonn
 ré as ríor-earraing fean-ráróte anuas i n-a cúro comráir
 coir teinead, agus é as cup ríor ar cúiraiú an traošail
 i mearc a cúro comarranna. Bíonn sae fean-feap
 Saeóealac, nae móp, i n-ann úráir ceap do bainc arta!
 Bíonn ríad ar bárr a ceangán go binn blarta beaet, agus
 ip annam nae otasann an ceann ceap cum a béil. Bí mé
 réim ar loig na fean-ráróte rin le morán bliaðanta agus
 tá níor mó ná míle aca cruinnighe asam, an cúro ip mó
 aca ar Cúige Connaet.

Níor b'fada go dtugar fá deara náir b'íad na daoine atá
 anoir ann a pinne a fupmóir aca, aet daoine eile fao ó,
 daoine fógsumta, righe, b'éirip, nó pmonnraí, tairig
 mópa, agus luét rtiúrta an rтата. Táinig morán de na
 ráirótiú anuas eugaimn ó na h-aimpearaíú caíte, agus ip
 dóig go bfuil cúro aca an-dorfa. Tá ciall, innleaeet
 agus rtuaim fá leir as bainc le morán aca, nae gnaéac
 a leiréir inr na h-aimpearaíú reo. Tá a lán de na ráirótiú
 reo i bpoirm rainn. Tá na céadta díob-rin ann, agus na

THERE is no other race in Europe, so far as I know, except perhaps the Spaniards, who are given to using old sayings and proverbs as are the Gael. Anyone who knows Irish from the cradle, he be's continually drawing down old proverbs in his fireside talk, and he discussing about the happenings of the world amongst his neighbours. Almost every old Irishman that is in it is able to make a proper use of them. They be on the tip of his tongue with melody, good taste, and exactness, and it is seldom the right word fails to come to his lips.

I was myself in pursuit of those old sayings for many years, and I have collected more than a thousand of them—the most of them from the province of Connacht.

It was not long until I perceived that it was not the people who are in it now who made great numbers of the proverbs, but other people long ago—learned men, kings perhaps, or princes, great chieftains, or men who steered the state. Many of these sayings came down to us from times past, and some of them are no doubt very ancient. There is a good sense, a depth of intellect and an intelligence bound up with many of them, the like of which is not usual in these times. A great many of these sayings are in the

ceitíre línite ionnta fóir, áct ní i gcóinnuibí b'ionn cuimhne
 a's na daoimibí ar na ceitíre línitibí ar fáil. Do éolrfeá,
 marí fompá, a's gac éinne an líne reo

“Deireadh loinge—bátao,”

áct ní h-é gac éinne a bfuil an fann ar fáil aise :—

“Deireadh loinge—bátao :

Deireadh áite—loirgao :

Deireadh pleríde—cáineadh :

Deireadh pláimte—oíra.”

Marí ro ní b'ionn ar béal na ndaoine go minic áct líne
 amháin ar an fann, marí “óá t'pian gálaí, an oiríde,” áct
 anoir a'sur aríir do gheobhá duine a bfuil an fann iomláin
 aise :—

“Óá t'pian gálaí, an oiríde,

Óá t'pian bairíre a's an oiríde,

Óá t'pian fainnte a's luét fadóirí,

A'sur óá t'pian cainnte a's luét póite.”

Ír é an éadai céadna leir na hálbanadai é. A's ro marí
 fompá óá “gáat-focail,” marí tušann ré oíra, ar
 cruinnušaó Óóinnailí m'ic an tóirí, a'sur tá a lán aca

¹ Áct ír iomá leasán bíor ar an fann ro. Éualao mé marí ro
 é i gconaoe m'uirí eó :—

“Óá t'pian gálaí leir an oiríde,

A'sur óá t'pian gaoite le c'ann,

Óá t'pian p'eadá le pléitibí

A'sur óá t'pian g'péme le beann.”

form of a rann or stanza. There are hundreds of them in it, and the whole four lines in them yet. But it is not always that the people remember the entire four lines. You might hear, for example, with everyone, this line—

The end of a ship—drowning.

But it is not everyone who has the entire rann—

The end of a ship—drowning.

The end of a kiln—burning.

The end of a banquet—disparagement.¹

The end of health—a groan.²

In this way people have often only a single line out of a rann, as above ; or as in the line—

Two-thirds of disease—the night.

But now and again you might find a person who has the entire rann—

Two-thirds of disease [with] the night.

Two-thirds of folly with youth.

Two-thirds of greed with the wealthy.

And two-thirds of talk with the drinkers.

It is the same way with the Scotch. Here, for example, are two “gnáth-fhocail” or “usual phrases,” as he calls them, out of Donald Macintosh’s collection, and he has

¹ Literally “dispraise” or “trading.”

² Literally “a sigh.”

de'n tróirt ro aise. Tugann pé dúinn iad mar dá fhean-
focal éasraimla, aét ir léir naé bfuil aét don rann amáin
ionnta asur sur filirdeacé iad—muo naé otus an fear-
easair fá deara.

Sean-ráð 33. Balach agus balgair' tighearna, dithis
nach bu choir leig leo.

Sean-ráð 34. Buail am balach air a charbad, is buail
an balgair air an tsróin.

Déanfaid mé rann díob anoir :—

“ Balac¹ asur balgair² tighearna
Diar naé buó dóir leis leó,
Buail an balac ar a carbad,
Ir buail an balgair ar an tsróin.³”

Do éruinnis mé mar an gcéadna ó béal na ndaoine a
lán de fhean-ráidtib, naé bfuil ionnta aét dá líne amáin.
Ní táinig pé in mo ceann ar otúr go raib don baint aca le
béarraiseacé no sur cuir de rann iomlán sac don aca.
Aét diaid ar ndiaid, do cuiread 'na luidé orm sur baine-
adair le filirdeacé, asur sur coramail go dtáinig cuir aca
ar dántaib. As reo cruicudad sur ar dántaib táinig cuir
aca, san don amhar, cró go bfuil na dánta ro caillte
anoir. Cuaidar mé i gConnaédaib go minic nuair bí mé óg
an ráð ro, “ ir maris éreigear a dúine gnát ar dúine dá

¹ Balach=bodach. ² Balgair nó balgaire=sionnach, i.e., plíbin,
rógaire glac. ³ Ir minic rshíobann pé rann mar píora píoir
7 tá a lán leac-ranna aise—a san píor dó péim ir dóig.

many more of the kind.¹ He gives them to us as two separate proverbs, but it is obvious that there is in them only one rann, and that they are in verse—a thing that the editor did not perceive.

Proverb 33.—A churl and a lord's trickster are a pair that ought not to be allowed to have their way.

Proverb 34.—Strike the churl upon the jaw, and strike the trickster on the nose.

Mackintosh translates “a lord's tyke and a conceited knave are two that ought not to be spared”; and again, “Strike the knave upon the neck, and knock the tyke upon the nose.”²

I have collected, also from the mouths of the people, a number of old sayings in which there are two lines only. It never came into my head at first that they had anything to say to verse at all, or that each of them was a portion of a complete verse. But gradually it was borne in on me that they also belonged to verse, and that it was likely that some of them came out of longer poems. Here follows a proof that it was from poetry some of them came, beyond any doubt, although these poems are now lost. I

¹ Printed in 1785. I quote the edition printed in Edinburgh in 1819.

² Mackintosh constantly prints as prose what is really a rann, and he has a great many half-ranns also. He was probably unconscious both of the rann and the half-rann.

éirí.” Tá an ród ro aš cur i gcéill dúinn naé ceapc é duine ar bit, a bfuil rean-aíthe ašainn air, do cur ar leat-éaduib, cum duine naé bfuil an aithe éaduna ašainn air do cur ’na leabair. Capcar duine oir mdu, b’éirir, ašur taitneigean a reian nó a méinn leat, ašur cuireann tú rpeir obann ann, ašur do beir tú áit nó onóir do buó cóir do éadair doo’ éarair féin, do bí aš obair ar do fon le bliadantair. Tá an rean-ród ro aš cur i n-ašair rin.

Ní éainis ré in mo éann, nuair éadair ar dúir é, so mba leat-rann do bí ann. Aét ba léir éam é ’na éair rin so mbaó ead, ašur šur mar reo do bí ré :

“ 1r maris éreigar a duine šnát
Ar duine óá éirí nó rí.”

Ann ran deiread o’éirig liom, ní h-é amáin an rann iomlán aét an óán ar ar bainead é, o’rášair, ašur ní h-é an óán iomlán amáin aét an ršeul ar bain an óán leir, mar an gcéadna. Fuair mé iad i láim-rširóinn do éus mo éara Mac Šiolla ráorais éam—láim-rširóinn do éannuis ré féin áit éigin i n-Albainn. Fuair mé cóir eile de ó fon, do rinnead inr an reatmad aoir deas. 1r cur é de’n ršeul clúóamair luatmar rin, “Ašallam Na Šenórac,” ašur do rširóad é, 1r dóis, inr an rširóad aoir deas. Níor cuiread an cur reo de’n eadma i gcló riam. Do réir an ršeul do fuair mire, ba é Šionn Mac Cumair féin do rinne na rann. Seo é an ršeul.

Do bí Donn Mac Dongura ’na ríš ar óá éirig Munan, aét bí ré aš dul riar inr an rašal ašur aš caitleamaint

often heard in Connacht when I was young, this saying—

“Alas for him who forsakes his usual person
For a person of twice or thrice.”

By accident I succeeded not only in finding the complete rann, but also the poem from which it was taken ; and not only the poem from which it was taken, but also the story that concerned the poem. I got them in a MS. that my friend Mac Giolla Phadraig gave me, a manuscript which he himself had bought somewhere in Scotland. I got another copy of it which was made in the seventeenth century. It is a portion of that famous and valuable tale, the “Dialogue of the Ancients,” and it was written probably in the thirteenth century. This portion of the romance has never been printed. According to the story which I recovered it was Fionn Mac Cumhaill himself who made the rann. Here is the story :—

Donn Mac Aonghusa had been king over the two provinces of Munster, but he was going down in the world and losing riches, until he had nothing left but “the point of West-Munster and the Eoghanacht of Loch Léin.” It is probable that he lost these also, because it was necessary for him to go at last, as “a chief of his household, with Cormac mac Art in Tara.” It is likely that he left this place too, for he was after that “a Fian chief in the Fiana of Ireland for a year.”

At the end of that year he came to where Finn was and asked him for his wages, and the wages he asked was

raibhbir go dtí nac raib aise aét “ fionn iarmuhoim asur
 eoganaét loca lém.” Ir cormail sur eail ré iao ro,
 leir, óir b’éigean do fá deireadoul “ ’na tdaoiread
 teaglac as Corbmac Mac Airt a tTeamraig.” Ír doig
 sur pás ré an airt reo mar an gcéadna, óir bí ré ’na d’iar
 rin “ ’na tdaoiread féine i pfianaiú Éireann go cionn
 bliadna.”

Asur i gcionn na bliadna rin éamais ré mar a raib fionn
 asur d’iar ré a tuaradoul air, asur ir é an tuaradoul
 d’iar ré—fior an rúin ba mhó asur ba feicméadaise do
 bí as fionn d’innirint do féin ; nó mar aoir an rean
 láim-rghibinn, “ fior an rúin buó h-ionnra leir d’innir
 da mbui aice.” Douairt fionn leir nac raib don éairt
 aise a leicéir rin d’iarraio air, asur go dtiubrao ré óir
 asur airsead do aét san bacao leir an iarrait eile úo.
 Douairt Donn nac mbéad ré páirta le h-óir ná le h-airsead,
 asur nac nglacrao ré don ruo aét an ruo d’iar ré ar
 dtúr, asur do éuir ré i gcumne d’fionn go ndouairt
 fionn leir go dtiubrao ré do mar tuaradoul cibé ruo
 d’iarraio ré, no mar tá ré inr an láimrghibinn, “ a
 ruoc féinne ol re, nac ccuinighir go tuccair bheicir
 damra go bfaighinn mo bheic féin úao aét go tucoinn
 m’aimir féin duir. Miri umurro, ol re, no coimlionur
 m’focal duir-rí, asur beir as imteadé úao aét muna
 coimlion—u[í]r an gcéadna dam.”

Ói fionn Mac Cumail i scrudó-éar annrin, asur fionne
 ré cómairle le h-Oirín asur le Caoilte i tdaoib an nro rin,
 asur ir é an focal doubradair leirean “ sur buame blao

this : a knowledge of the greatest and most private secret that Finn had, to be told to himself ; or, as the old manuscript puts it, “ to tell a knowledge of the secret most dear to him of all that he had.” Finn told him that he had no right to ask such a thing of him, and that he would give him gold and silver if only he would not press this other request. Donn said that he would not be satisfied with gold or silver, and that he would not accept anything except the thing he had asked for at first ; and he reminded Finn that Finn himself had said that he would give him for wages whatever thing he might ask, or, as it is in the manuscript, “ O Fian-king,” spake he, “ rememberest thou not how thou hast to me given thy word that I should from thee obtain my own adjudging, if only I gave to thee my own time-and-service. I, furthermore,” spake he, “ have to thee fulfilled my word, and I shall be [now] departing from thee if thou fulfil not to me the same.”

Finn mac Cumhaill was in sore strait then, and he took counsel with Oisín¹ and with Caoilte² concerning this matter, and the word they said to him was “ that glory was more lasting than life,”³ that is, that fame was more long-lived than life, and that it would not be right for him now to do anything that would injure his great reputation after him ; and they told Finn that he should keep his word to Donn, but that he must get a firm promise from Donn himself that he would never let anything leak out concern-

¹ His son. ² His cousin. ³ This also has become a proverb.

no raogal;'' ir é rin sup buaine clú 'na raogal, agus nár ceart o'fionn don ruo do déanamh anoir do millfead a mór-clú 'na díar, agus duibhreach le fionn go scaitfead ré a focal do coimhionad do 'Donn, aet geallad daincion o'fágal ó 'Donn nac rgeitfead ré go brát ar an rún rin com fada agus ba mian le fionn é beit 'na rún, nó, mar aoir an sean-rgeul, "go nongeanad rún fair an ccén buo rún aice féin a[n] ní o'inneorad dó."

Do cuir fionn fíor ar 'Donn anroin, agus o'mnir ré do go raib rún aige é féin dul go Teahair agus móir-feirdear eile leir, agus airm faoi n-a gcuro éadais, agus go raib ré as dul feall do déanamh ar Cormac Mac Airt, Áro-rí na Teahrae, agus a ríogad do baint dé. Agus b'éigean do 'Donn geallad do tadhairt do nac rgeitfead ré air, nó mar aoir an rgeul "tucc 'Donn fírinne flata dó co nongnad rún air rin in ccén buo rún aice-ríom é." Aet, san buideachar o'á geallad do cuair 'Donn go Cormac agus eus raibad dó, agus do cuir ar a coimead é.

Cuair fionn go Teahair 'na díar rin, agus móir-feirdear eile o'á muinntir féin leir, aet mar do fuair an t-Áro-rí raibad i n-am, níor leigead irtead aet fionn féin 'na donar, nuair táinig ré go doirur Tighe na Míod-cuarta —an halla mór i n-a n-icir baid i oTeahair. Com luat agus cuair ré irtead do gabad é, agus do féadad é, agus fuairdear a cuir airm i bfolad fá n-a cuir éadais, réir le oíoc-beart do déanamh ar an rí, mar aoirdeir 'Donn leir an rí goime rin. Agus aoir an sean-rgeul "do gabad fionn an roin acc Corbmac agus do bairiad glair

ing that secret so long as Finn desired it to be a secret, or, as the old story says, “that he would thereof make a secret whiles the thing that he, Finn, should tell him was for himself, Finn, a secret.”

Finn sent for Donn then, and told him that he had a secret intention of going to Tara, and seven others with him, and weapons beneath their dress; and that he was going to work treachery on Cormac mac Art, High-king of Tara, and to take his kingdom from him. And Donn was obliged to give this promise that he would not inform¹ on him, or, as the story says, “Donn gave to him the truth of a prince that of it he would make a secret, while for him, Finn, it was a secret.” But in spite of his promise Donn went to Cormac and gave him warning, and put him on his keeping.²

Finn went to Tara after that, and seven others of his own people with him; but as the High King had received warning in time, no one was allowed to enter but Finn himself, alone, so soon as he had come to the door of the House of Mead-circulation—the great hall in which they used to dine in Tara. As soon as he went in he was taken and searched, and they found his weapons concealed beneath his clothing, ready to do the king an evil, as Donn had told the king beforehand. And, says the old story. “Then was Finn taken by Cormac, and on him

¹ Or “peach,” “let-leak-out.”

² A common Anglo-Irish phrase=guard.

seimleada fairs, sonad iar na sabail do roisne na poimn :—

“ Maircc do ní maircc do ní
Coccar do nac taircear ní ;
Maircc éirígear a òuine gnát
Ar òuine d’a éirí nó éirí.”¹

Rinne Fionn trí riamh eile an uair céadna, aét ní eusaim annro iad. Ni baineann riad linn-ne.

An ruo ir fíor i otaoib an trean-ráir reo, .i. sup curo de d’an asur de rean-dán é, asur sup fad ó do punnead, ir fíor é leir, mar mearaim, i otaoib mórlán de na rean-ráirtib eile do euala mé. Táimis ré im’ ceann fad ó, nuair bí mé díomaoimead, so mbuó mair an caiteam-aimprie é curo de na rean-ráirtib aad i bfoirm leat-riamh, ráirte do eualar féin imear na rean-daime, asur nac raib riam i scló, do déanam iomlán, as cur d’a líne eile leó. As reo, mar rompla, mar d’iomlánuisgear ar mo rtuaim féin an d’a líne rim ar a bfuilmíó as cur ríor, bliadanta pul a bfuairgear na línte cearta. Asur nac móir do bí mé amúg !

“ [An té do reinn a ceol do ead
Ní’l ceol le fásail i n-a éis]²
Ir mair na éirígear a òuine gnát
Ar òuine d’a éirí nó éirí.

¹ Tá rean focal as Saeóealaid na h-Albann, “cha do thréig Fionn riamh caraid a lámh-dheas.”

² Cf. Saeóeal na h-Albann, “is tric a bha breágh air fhéill musach ‘na thigh fein’=ir minic do bí “bpeág” ar donad “Sruama” ‘na éis féin.

were locks and fetters piled," so that it was after his being taken he made the stanzas :—

“ Alas for who makes, alas for who makes
A conspiracy of which nought comes (?).
Alas for who forsakes his usual man
For a man of twice or thrice.” ¹

Finn made three other stanzas upon the same occasion, but I do not give them here ; they do not concern us.

The thing that is true about this old proverb, namely, that it is a portion of a poem, and of an old poem, and that it is long ago since it was composed is true also, as I think, concerning many of the other old sayings that I have heard. It came into my mind long ago, when I was idle, that it would be a good pastime to complete, by adding two more lines to them, some of the old proverbs that are in the form of a half-rann, and which I had heard myself amongst the old people and which had never been in print. Here, for example, is how I completed out of my own imagination the two lines of which we have been speaking, years before I recovered the real lines. How utterly astray I was !—

“ In his *own home* his harp is silent,
He plays for *others* in a trice,²
O do not forsake your constant servant
For him who has served you but twice or thrice.”

¹ *i.e.*, He had treated Donn, who had only been with him for a year, as an old and tried friend. The Scotch Gaels have a proverb : “ Finn never forsook his right-hand man.”

² *Cf.* the Gaelic proverb : “ Taithneach amuigh, is bréineach asteach ” = “ pleasant abroad, surly at home.”

Rinne mé an fuo céadna leir na píceaḁaib̃ de leaḁ-
 pannaib̃, aḁur cúir mé rlaḁraí [] timc̃ioill orḁa le
 tairbeáint do'n léiḁḁeoir—ḁá mbéaḁ aon léiḁḁeoir ann
 coir̃óce do léiḁḁeaḁ iao aḁt mé féin—cia h-iao na leaḁ-
 panna do fuairear ó na ḁaoimib̃ aḁur na leaḁ-panna do
 cumar féin. Beirim cur̃o aca uaim annro, aḁt ní tusaím
 aon fuo ann ran téaer, le cur̃ i ḁc̃éill dom' luḁt-léiḁḁe
 caḁ é an leaḁ do cumar féin aḁur an leaḁ náir cumar.¹
 ḁeoḁaíḁ riao an t-eólar riñ aḁ ḁeireaḁ an leaḁair.
 B'éir̃oir naḁ leaḁ-rann cur̃o aca cor̃ ar̃ b̃iḁ! Ó'r
 i ḁConnaḁḁaib̃ fuairear iao ḁo léir, naḁ móir, tusaím “an
 leaḁ-Rann Connaḁḁaḁ” ar̃ an leaḁair̃in reo. Aḁt, ar̃
 noḁiḁ, tá cur̃o móir ḁíob̃ coitḁeannta do'n tír ar̃ faḁ.

¹ Cuirim ir̃teaḁ ar̃ uair̃eanntaib̃ pocla beaḁa mar̃ “aḁur,”
 “óir,” “ḁo” nó a leit̃éir̃ moim̃ an leaḁ-rann r̃íreannaḁ, le n-a
 éeang̃aile níor̃ fear̃ir̃ le mo leaḁ-rann féin, aḁt ní ḁear̃nar̃ r̃iam̃
 aon aḁruḁaḁ eile ionnta.

I did the same thing with scores of other half ranns, and put brackets to show the reader—if there ever should be any reader except myself—what were the half-ranns I got from the people and what were the ones I composed myself. I give some of them here, but I put nothing in the text to show readers which half I composed myself. They will find this at the end of the book. Perhaps some of them are not half-ranns at all! Since it was in Connacht I got the most of these, I call the little book the Connacht Half-Rann, but I am sure a great many of them are common to the whole country.

1.

O'imēiḡ Clanna Néill t̃ar r̃áile
 'S tá Éipe c̃r̃áir̃te ó o'imēiḡ r̃ĩao,
 Áct oéañr̃aí̃o uib̃eac̃a iol̃aĩr̃ iol̃r̃aí̃o
 Cibé an áit i ñg̃or̃t̃ar̃ ĩao.

2

Bíonn l̃uib̃ nó leig̃ear i ñ-áḡaí̃o ḡac̃ ḡal̃aĩr̃
 O'á mbuail̃r̃í̃o tamall̃ r̃ir̃ nó mñá,
 Áct téir̃eann an leir̃ḡe ḡo 'oí̃ an r̃m̃iõr̃
 Áḡur r̃añr̃aí̃o r̃é ann r̃in ḡo b̃r̃á̃t̃.

3.

Ir̃ maĩḡ ac̃á ḡan õeõc̃,
 Ir̃ maĩḡ ac̃á ḡan b̃iaí̃o,
 Ir̃ maĩḡ a ḡm̃r̃eap̃ an t̃-oic̃
 Á'r̃ a b̃iõr̃ ḡo bõc̃t̃ 'na 'oiaí̃o.

4.

Ná leig̃ õo r̃ún le bun a' élaí̃o
 ḡo r̃ear̃aí̃o t̃ú ap̃ a b̃áir̃r̃.
 Bíonn cluap̃ aḡ an ḡcloic̃
 Áḡur éir̃t̃eac̃t̃ aḡ an ḡcl̃ár̃.¹

¹ Cf. Sean-focal eile, "Bíonn cluap̃ ap̃ an ḡcoill 7 bíonn 'oá éaoib̃ ap̃ an ḡcl̃aí̃o."

1.

The O'Neills are gone into exile now,
 And tortured Ireland weeps her fill,
 But the eggs of eagles will still make eagles,—
 Wherever they're hatched they are eagles still.

2.

There's a herb or a cure for every sickness,
 If only you find it, as all men know,
 But sloth glides into the inmost marrow,
 And sticks like an arrow and will not go.

3.

Sad is the case, I think,
 For the man without drink or food ;
 The man who has done the evil,
 But out of it got no good.

4.

The table has ears to hear ;
 There's an ear in the solid rock.
 Don't whisper the wall your secret
 Till first you've stood on its top.¹

¹ There is another proverb : " There does be an ear on the wood
 and there do be two sides on the ditch."

5.

1r mairis cáillear clann nó bean,
 1r mairis an tpean-doir san bhrís,
 Oirín i n-oidiú na féine,
 Nó bó as gheimhíis i n-oidiú a laois.

6.

Ní luaithe an gaoth Máirta
 'Ná innéinn mná óige.
 Liantar an cáirta,
 Seo pláinte na h-óige!

7.

Gaoth, fearctaimh, ríon, rneacta,
 'O'fásaid 'o'fállainn comh lom le cleite
 Aet cuir an taobh tiar aniar
 Agus bairtíú tú ar bliadain eile.

8.

1r é airgead na n-óinreac
 Cuirtear bhróga ar bean an píobaire,
 Tus 'Dia aige do'n níos rin
 Nac mbéad na daoine go léir críonna.

5.

The father after his children ;
 Old age without a laugh ;
 An Oisin after the Fiana,
 Or a cow after its calf.

6.

Not swifter March wind
 Than the mind of young women.
 Here's to youth ! Let's drink it
 With bumpers full brimming.

7.

If wind and weather and rain and smoke
 Have left your cloak as I see it here,
 Why turn the back to the front. I take it
 You'll make it last for another year.

8.

God in His wisdom to this has seen,
 That all are not keen or wise in life.
 'Tis the pence of the foolish women dancing
 That buy her boots for the piper's wife !

9.

1r tŭ mo m̃ac ʒo bpōrfarō tŭ
 Δ' r mo ðearʒ-nām̃aro ó řm̃ amac̃,
 Óir iorir an ʒcarĩc aʒur an cpoiceann
 Sáĩceann an ðean í řéin ir̃ceac̃.¹

10.

M̃á bĩ ðo m̃uinñtir řóm̃ac řial
 ðerō an řéile leac̃ ʒo ðtĩ an c̃ill,
 An řuo a ðeir̃cear̃ inr̃ an ʒcnám̃
 1r ðeocar̃ leir̃ řʒar̃m̃ leir̃ an ðřuil.²

11.

Ñá cřerō aʒur ñá n-éĩrc̃ leir̃,
 An "yerh" ar̃ ðeul an řm̃éĩrle ;
 Sé "yerh" aʒur "no"
 An c̃uro 1r mō ðe'n ðeur̃la.

¹ T̃á řann eile ann :—

"ðean m̃ic ʒ m̃ácar̃ĩ c̃éile
 m̃ar̃ a ðeac̃ c̃ac̃ ʒ luc̃ le c̃éile."

² T̃á řac̃ ac̃a i n-Albainn, "An rud a chinneas sa chráimh cha
 tig é as an fheoil."

9.

A woman betwixt the bark and skin
 Thrusts herself in, a subtle cat ;
 You were my son till I saw you married—
 My bitter enemy after that.¹

10.

Your fathers were good and were generous ever,
 And you are bounteous and kind and free ;
 For the thing that was bred in the bone and heart
 Will never depart from the blood in thee.²

11.

Don't heed the word " Yes "
 In the mouth of your foe ;
 Sure English consists
 Just of " Yes " and of " No."

¹ Cf. the proverb :—

" A mother-in-law and her daughter-in-law,
 Like a cat and a mouse, all paw and claw."

² Cf. the Highland saying : " The thing that is born in the bone
 does not depart from the flesh."

12.

An té rin go bfuil a rparán folamh
 Na daoine d'íoc, ir dó ir doiligh,
 Íocfaid an fear coir an fear tiam
 Agus íocfaid Dia an fear deiridh.¹

13.

Ir minic tead mór mairlead
 Agus é folamh goitad gan,
 Ir fearr rgeul gearr greannmar
 'Ná rgeul fada fairrimh fann.²

14.

Tarb deiridh an díl
 Agus bionn deiridh na feirge;
 Má'r dearg é an caoir
 Ní bíonn gan móran feirge.

¹ Cf. an rann ro ar Conradé iúigh eó :—

“Cuiri Colum Cille a beannaíocht éirí
 Agus duibhir pé lú a beir d'ól,
 Agus an té nac maib pé aise
 An fear eile a éadair d'ól.”

² Tá rean-máó ann, “fear fada fuar folamh, ir olc an rparán
 é” agus tá rean-focal eile ann, “an ruo ir giorra ir géire,”
 agus arís “an rgeal ir gearr ir é ir fearr,” aliter “an rean-
 gearr an rean-éir ir fearr,” agus arís “ir fearr beas deir-
 ná móir griannd.”

12.

The man whose pocket and purse are empty,
 He cannot pay like the other mon,
 Let this man here pay for that man there,
 And God will pay for the last man then.¹

13.

I have seen large and rambling houses
 Kept up badly fall and fail,—
 Give a brief, pithy, pleasant story,
 Not a long flowing feeble tale!²

14.

Though red be the rowan berry
 It is very bitter, I'm thinking ;
 And sorrow's the end of anger,
 As thirst is the end of drinking.

¹ Compare this rann from the Co. Mayo :—

Columcille sent you his blessing, I think,
 And he bade you to drink and be hearty men,
 And the man who has nothing to pay for drink,
 The other will give it to him again.

² Cf. "A long, cold, empty man is a bad lot"; and another common proverb, "The shortest thing is the sharpest thing"; and again, "The tale that is short is the tale that is best"; *aliter* "The short history is the best history," and again "Better is Small Pretty than Large Ugly."

15.

An fuo i^r linn i^r mó linn é
 'Ná an fuo na^c linn, so mó^r fa^oda,
 I^r fear^r mo b^o-ra 'ná do b^o,
 I^r fear^r mo m^ada^o-ra 'ná do m^ada^o.

16.

Ná bí a^s rúil le rí^t ó'n n^aoi^t
 Ná caⁱlín glan ó r^eraoi^l;
 Do péir a r^eda^cta bí^or s^ac ní^o,
 I^r t^réan an fuo an s^aoi^l.

17.

No^ct^tar ar móim^o clai^oda^m D^e
 A^s cu^r an t^réin faoi péin i^r r^ma^ct,
 I^r s^ear^r ó an^oiú so o^ti an^oe
 'S i^r sⁱoi^rra bí^or an t-é^as a^s t^ea^ct.¹

¹ Cf. an sean foca^l ro :—

“An té cu^rear rí^or
 ní hé ba^mear aní^or” ;

a^sur an foca^l ar Albainn, “Is le duine an greim a shluigis é, ach
 cha leis an greim a chagnas é.”

15.

The thing's our own, and so it's better
 Than that which is only your's, I trow.
 Our dog is better than your old setter,
 Our cow much better than your old cow.

16.

Things take after their race ;
 Our kin is a thing we feel.
 Expect no peace from the wind,
 No comely maid from a streel.

17.

The sword of God defence defies,
 The proud man dies—prepare his pall.
 How brief from yesterday till now !
 Yet time enow for death to fall.¹

¹ Cf. "He who puts down, it is not he who takes up"; and the Highland proverb, "The mouthful which a man swallows is his own, but not the mouthful that he chews."

18.

Bionn muinntir an traoḡail mar luét an óil,
 Dúbdairt ríad liom fá dó go cruinn
 Muna bfuil airḡeas in do póca
 Duail an bótar 'r ná bí linn.¹

19.

ḡad riar a'r amiar
 Ar baim ríall de'n lá;
 Tadbair tamall do'n fuaḡ
 Tadbair tamall do'n ḡrád.²

20.

Sean-aḡair 'Dálaiḡ aḡ an teine
 Aḡur an cliaḡán le n-a ḡaoib;
 Túr aḡur deirḡas an duine
 Ir ar an teine tarraingḡeann ríad.

¹ Cf. an pean ráḡ eile reo :—

“ní'l ḡaol aḡ aon
 le ríoi, ḡan réan.”

² Cf. ḡaeḡealḡ na halbainn, “Cha do' thug gaol luath nach do
 thug fuath grad.”

18.

The world's your host in a tavern house,
 Who tells you plainly, above your beer,
 If you haven't got money you must not stay,
 Off and away with you, don't stop here.¹

19.

Backward and forward,
 Make strips of the day,
 Hating one moment,
 Then loving away!²

20.

Old grandfather Daly is at the fire,
 The cradle beside him, see-saw see-sawing ;
 The end, the beginning, the babe, the grandsire,
 It's towards the fire they both are drawing.

¹ Cf. the common proverb, "Nobody is related to an unprosperous sage."

² Cf. the Highland saying, "No one ever gave a quick love who did not give a quick hatred."

21.

1r ola do éiríde-re
 An t-im [a Ainne]
 Sé rúg mo éiríde-re
 An bmaoinín bainne.

22.

Sé o'rág mo cora san bhóis san rtocha
 Agus o'rág mo dhruim san léine
 Fuaíct a' r fearcainn, cruaidéan earradaí,
 Agus fuairídead fada fadai léirídeir.

23.

Sí mo cómaidle do'n duine daíodh
 É do beir go deó na corc;
 Tá cáil mhór ar an duine daíodh
 Aíct 1r mhór an truaí an fear boct.¹

¹ Cf.

“Nuair laíodhídeann an t-áó
 laíodhídeann an t-áó.”

Tá sean-máó i n-Albainn, “fear falamh 's é gun ní, suidh' é fada
 síos ó chach, ar mheud a bheis g'a mbi na chorp, is iomad lochd a
 gheibher dhá.” 1r mann é seo, aít ní éis an fear eadair rin fá
 deara.

21.

The oil of my heart
 Is soft butter, like silk ;
 The juice of my heart
 Is the drop of new milk.

22.

Storm and rain and wild March weather
 And wandering on the mountains' skirt,
 Have left my foot without shoe or stocking,
 And left my shoulder without a shirt.

23.

I advise the poor man, old or young,
 To hold his tongue and cease to speak :
 The rich man's word is always heard,
 But my heart is stirred for the poor and weak.¹

¹ Cf. "When Luck weakens, Love weakens," Co. Mayo ; and the Highland saying, "An empty man who is without any possession, he sits down far from everybody, and no matter how many good qualities he may have in his body, it is many the fault that will be found with him." This is really a rhymed rann, but the editor never perceived the fact, and prints it and numerous others of the same sort as prose !

24.

le bean ar bít dā bfuil ran traoḡal
 ná leis don pún amáin,
 ná leis do pún le buacail ciúim
 nó ir fada maéar do cáil.¹

25.

An té rin atá san don teine
 Déanao a ḡrao faoi an nḡrém,
 ir fuparua duine do cur amac
 nac bfuil teac aige do féin.²

26.

Ná gab de ouð-léim inr an bpoli,
 Agus am na h-óige ná caic le baoir,
 ḡo utagaró an lá moé ar air,
 ní feiciró tú é ḡo bráic arír.

¹Cf. sean focal eile, “ir minic ciúim cionntac.”—Condae mhuis eó.

²Cualairó mé sean-focal eile :—

“ir mairḡ as uil faoi do’n ḡrém
 nac bfuil muo aige in a mála féin.”—
 Condae mhuis eó.

24.

I care not who she be in truth,
 Do not in her confide ;
 Nor in the seeming modest youth—
 They will spread your secret wide.¹

25.

You have no home, then face the storm,
 Let the sun warm you all alone ;
 It's easy to turn out the man
 Who cannot call a hearth his own.²

26.

Do not spend your youth in folly,
 Leap not blindly off the track—
 Youth will go. You'll never see it
 Until yesterday comes back.

¹ Cf. "Often is the quiet guilty."

² I have heard this also in Co. Mayo :—

"Alas for the man who at the going down of the sun
 Has nothing in his own bag."

27.

Beata duine a toil féin
 Agus ní gan céili an rean-focal,
 Beata duine a toil
 'Dá dtéirdeas ré a coislaó 'na tpoirgadó.

28.

Déan an ruo ir ceart cóir
 Ná cuir do leas ar an méar fáda,
 Ir beas an mairt an raogal móir
 Ó dúnfar do fúil a' r ó rtorpar do teangsa.

29.

Nuair a bíor an bolg lán
 Ir mian leir an gcnám ríneas;
 Ní buan go deo paróirdear móir
 Cailltear rtorr tré fáilpráct daoine.

30.

"Gac fear fá ruball a bó féin,"¹
 Ir rean-focal é a daoine,
 An té ar a mbíonn an bprós 'na luirde
 Ir dó ir cipe í rgaioileasó.

¹ Cf. Gaedhealg na h-Albann, "Fear na bó féin 'sa pholl an toiseach."

27.

Tis true that a man's own will is his food,
 A provender good and bound to last.
 His will, I think, is his food and drink,
 Though his will be a will to fast.

28.

Do what is right, though men may scoff,
 Do not put it off until sloth come to thee.
 When your eye must close and your mouth must close,
 It is little good the world can do thee.

29.

There is riches for him who chooses,
 Laziness loses gold each day ;
 For when the stomach is full and sated
 The body must sleep its feast away.

30.

"Let the cow's owner lift its tail,"¹
 That's the old saying once in vogue ;
 The man on whose foot the brogue is pressing,
 It's he is the man who should loose the brogue.

¹Cf. the Highland saying, "The man himself who owns the cow, let him get into the hole first."

31.

Mairéann an t-íolair ar an áille,
 Mairéann an bhrádan iní an rruic
 Mairéann an éraob ar an béal,
 Aéc ní mairéann an láim do éuir.¹

32.

An glar ar an doirar
 'S an eocair ar iarraidh:
 Ná déan do éaradair
 Le duine gan ciorde ar bit.²

33.

An long tá cumta i gcóir ír i sceart
 Imteócair rí go mear fá feól,
 An puo a sheinntear iní an ghenáin
 Ír doilís a baint ar an bfeól.

¹Cf. an rann rin no ríróibtaoi go coitcéionnta ar láim-ríróibinnib:—

Truag rin, a leabráin bíg báin:
 Tiucrair an lá ann, 'r ír ríor,
 In a nócrair neac or cionn do élar:
 “Ní mairéann an láim do ríróib.”

²Cf. “Ní cruair na cloca glara 'ná na láim pálaia,” Conoac mhuis éó.

31.

Still screams the eagle upon the hill,
 Still leaps the salmon beside the shore ;
 The bush in the hedge is living still,
 But the hand that planted it lives no more.¹

32.

Don't make your complaint
 To the heartless wealth-swollen :
 There's a lock on his door
 And the key has been stolen.²

33.

As the boat is made the boat will race,
 And the well-made boat will face the flood ;
 The thing that is bred in the inmost heart,
 It never will part from the flesh and blood.

¹ Cf. the rann so commonly written in MSS. :—

That is a pity, O little white book ;
 The day shall come, and this is true,
 In which one shall say, above thy cover :
 ' The hand that wrote lives no more.' ”

² Cf. “ The green stones are not harder than empty hands,” Co. Mayo.

34.

ʔáʂʔarò an ʔéile ʔó-mór
 ʔá ʔó-öʔón le ʔarò tu,
 Congʔarʂ an enám in ʔo láim
 Aʂur leaʔarò an maʔarò tú.¹

35.

Cuiʔniʂ ʂur ʔʂaròil an luò an leómán
 Nuairi bí ʔé ʂaròta inʔan líon,
 Ir ʂéipe ʔúil inʔ an ʂclúro
 'Ná óá ʔúil ar ʔurò an tige.

36.

Ná mear náò ʔtiuöʔarò ʂarò ʔeacac
 Sáʔarò ar a beaʔarò ólaom,
 Ir mall [mall] a meileann ʔia
 Ac̣t meileann Sé ʂo h-an-mín.

¹ Cf.

“Nuairi laʂann an lám,
 laʂann an ʂráò.”

Conrae míuʂ eó. Aʂur aríʔ, “mo ʂráò tú aʂur ʔurò aʂarò.”

34.

Your generosity overdone

Will teach you, my son, how things are hollow,

Keep *you* the bone in your hand—and mind

You will quickly find how the dogs will follow.¹

35.

When the lion was caught in the hunter's net,

Who let him go but the tiny mouse ;

That eye in the corner's more sharp and wise

Than any two eyes about the house.

36.

Every sinner sure must suffer

For his crimes, both great and small ;

Slowly, slowly God is grinding,

But he grinds exceeding small.

¹ Cf. "When the hand grows weak,
The love [for you] grows weak."—Co. Mayo.

And again, "My love you are—whilst you have" (*i.e.*, have something I may get out of you). Literally, "and a thing at you."

37.

Ná feic a bfeicir, ná cluin a scluinir,
 Ná gearraíod do teanga do ríóiríac féin ;
 Ír binn béal ó beir iadta,
 Focal ciallinnair focal gearr.¹

38.

Ní'l mpan traogal aét ceó
 A'r ní fearann an rós aét real,
 Ní buan ríoc roillreac na maíone,
 Aét ar fearó tamail bionn ré gearr.

39.

Do'n oic 'r do'n maíe,
 Ír ionnan cáir,
 Níor bíar ré bíad
 Náe mbíarfaó báir.

40.

Tós a úine o'ualac féin,
 Beir ar a bun nó ar a báir ;
 An áit a mbíonn beirte i bráirte
 Bíonn an leat [annrín] ar láir.²

¹ Cf. "Ír maíre náe scrínniúeann ciall,
 Ír maíre náe scríneann ríuan le n-a súe."

² Cf. an fear-focal coitíonnta, "Éire i bráirte Éire ar láir."
 éáirte irteac ír oíis i n-aímríe Eóúam Ruairó 7 an Confeóeracíon.

37.

An ancient proverb tells me this—

“ Eloquent is the mouth that’s shut, ”
Don’t see or hear what you hear or see,
Nor be by your tongue your own throat cut.¹

38.

This world is only a mist,
And pleasures exist but a while ;
The hoar frost after the night,
How bright—but how brief—its smile !

39.

For bad, for good,
The self-same breath :
None tastes of food
But tastes of death.

40.

Lift thine own burden all alone,
Grasping the load wherever’s best ;
Where *two* are concerned about a business,
Half of the business ’s surely messed.²

¹ Cf. “ Alas for him who collects not sense ;
Alas for him who does not put a bridle to his voice.”

² Cf. The common proverb, “ Ireland in partnership, Ireland on the ground ” (or “ overthrown,”) which probably dates from the Confederation period.

41.

Do leis an coillead glaoð
 So n-áirí ar rítead na maíone,
 "Le fear na bó an laos
 Le bean-an-tiúe an bainne."

42.

Díonn an ríabúir as caoinead a cáir,
 Ní'l luid na leigear i n-asairí an báir.

43.

Ní'l crann mór an scoill níor gránna
 'Ná crann san bliad.¹
 Áit ir duál do'n fíréan cáirdear
 Déire asur grád.

44.

Ná cuir ar cáirde so rí amáiread
 An puo bað ceart dúit a déanamh iníe,
 An té do cuir a leat ar cáirde
 Níor bfeáirde so minic é.²

¹ Cf. An focal manannac "Ta dooinney berchagh fegooish giast-yllys gollrish billey fegooish mess."

² Tá focal eile ann, "Cuir ar cáirde, cuir naé fearde."

41.

When morning dawns, the cock
 The farmyard loudly summons.
 The cow's calf is the man's,
 The cow's milk is the woman's.

42.

The rich man mourns and sighing saith,
 There is no herb nor cure for death.

43.

The righteous man with a smile
 His alms and his love will shower ;
 No tree in the wood so vile
 As the tree that will not flower.¹

44.

Do not put off until to-morrow
 The thing that you ought to have done to-day ;
 The man who puts off will surely sorrow,
 He wishes to follow the easy way.²

¹ Note—*Cf.* The Manx saying “ A rich person without liberality is like a tree without fruit.”

² *Cf.* This other saying :—

“ A putting off,
 A putting one is not the better for.”

45.

Sé an fogluim ir feárr ar bit, beic críonna,
 A' r an eagna ir feárr a beic go maic.
 Ná h-ic gan goile i n-aimrír fleróe
 Ná h-ól ar donac aét do fáic.

46.

B'éirir go mbéir an fear lúatgáiréac
 Do bí ar mairim go boét brónac,
 Ceann garb ar mairim earraiš
 Agus ceann mín ar an tráchnóna.¹

47

As ruidé go meádon oróce
 'S as luidé go meádon lae; ²
 "Ní baileócair tu rtor
 Ar an nór rin," ar ré.

48.

Tigean tu cúgaim arceac,
 Mar rmúro as teac ar an ngréin,
 Dí-meap [asao] ar úaoimib eile
 Agus meap mór asao orc féin.

¹ Cf. "ir iomóa car ran ngróic aét ní lia 'ná ran tráošal."

² Cf. "ir fearr na bróša do cáiceam 'ná na bráicéliní."

45.

Drink not too much where men are drinking ;
 Eat at a feast not too much food ;
 There is no learning like being prudent ;
 There is no wisdom like being good.

46.

Grief at the moment may leave you grieving,
 But when she is leaving comes joy instead ;
 There's a surly head on a spring-tide morning,
 On its evening a smooth and pleasant head.¹

47.

You will not find gold
 Come your way very soon
 If you sit until midnight
 And sleep until noon.²

48.

Like a cloud from above
 You make dark our skies,
 With yourself you're in love,
 But your fellows despise.

¹ Cf. "There is many a turn in the wind, but not more turns than there are in life."

² Cf. "It is better to wear out the brogues than the sheets."

49.

1r fíúntaíge 'r fearr 50 mór an trláinte
 ná táinte bó amuig ar fear,
 Aét fear san airgead i mbaile mór
 1r oic an lón do a 50ite gear.¹

50.

Ní'l m' an traoḡal aét ceó
 A'r ní fearann an rós aét real,
 'S cuimníḡ do éiríoc a duine
 Sul cuirtear do íláinte ar ceal.

51.

Ná tabair, aét dún do béal,
 Agus fáḡ an rḡeal mar bí ;
 An puo rin nac 5cloipeann an cluar
 Ní 5oilleann ré ar an 5cporde.²

52.

A duine san céill tabair aipe duit féin
 Ní'l tuile dá méro nac 5craíḡfíró,
 Maireann an cíaó fearó bliathna 'r lá
 Ní mairfíró an 5ríaó fearó íáite.³

¹ Cf. " 1r t'iom an t-uatac, uatac de putóḡaib palaima."

² Cf. an pocal Albanac, " An rud nach cluinn cluas cha gluais é cridhe."

³ Cf. " Na gradha luatha 's na fuatha tric." Ó Albainn. Agus arís, " Cha n'uil tuil air nach tig traigh."

49.

Better good appetite far than riches,
 Or herds of cattle or fields of grass ;
 But a man in a town who has got no money
 His appetite leaves him in sorry pass.¹

50.

Remember thy end, O man,
 Ere thy span be passed away ;
 Life shifts like a mist on the moors,
 And pleasure endures but a day.

51.

Better to close thy lips,
 Say nothing, and let us part ;
 For the thing that the ear will never hear
 It can never grieve the heart.²

52.

Quickly the flood comes in. Beware,
 It may ebb in a time still shorter.
 Regret may last for many a year,
 But Love not last for a quarter.³

¹ Cf. "A load of empty guts is a heavy load."

² Cf. The Highland proverb, "What ear hears not moves not heart."

³ Cf. The Highland saying, "Hasty loves and quick hatreds."
 And again, "There is never a flood but ebbs."

53.

Trí neite geintear inr an bfuil
 Sué cinn, filirdeáct, féile,¹
 Eólar úgðar tabair do'n bfuirdeáct
 Ir tpeire an dúctar 'ná an méir rin.

54.

Ir fada fadear galántaáct,
 Téir acfumeáct níor ríá,
 Ir é an duine an t-éadac²
 'S ir gréasac é an bíad.

55.

Féac anoir mé san ór san lúe
 Tar éir ar fiúblar éall ir 'bór ;
 An té nac bfuil aige áct a fláinte
 Nac mairis dó [tárla] caili a cor.

56.

Ir féárr ceapc inr an geapn doilíg
 Ná do éáirdear éríorá a bpad ó baile ;
 Ir beas ir fiú an ríol io' gort
 Nuair éilígtear ort cíor do éailim.

¹ Cf. "Sué cinn, filirdeáct, féile,—trí neite mé péirir a bfozlum."

² Cf. "Ged nach duine an t-aodach cha duine a bhios as 'eugmhais." Ó Albainn.

Poetry, voice, a generous nature,¹

You are born with these or else without.

Heap on the churl a world of learning—

Heredity will still break out.

Go on and follow the fashion!

Display is a making talent!

A man is made by his clothing,²

And revelling makes the gallant.

I cannot move. I have no wealth,

Though I travelled the world across and across;

For the man who has nothing except his health

The loss of his foot is a deadly loss.

What good is all your ungarnered seed,

When the landlords need your rent in hands;

A single hen on your loft is better

Than all your people in foreign lands.

¹ Cf. "Voice for singing, poetry, generosity—three things impossible to learn."

² Cf. The Highland saying, "Though clothes are not the man, he is no man who is without them."

57.

1r feárru baiḡreán a' r bainne ḡabair
 'Ná dul cum tiḡe ar domhan dá méir ;
 1r minic pálar boct ḡo leór
 Dá méir a rtor aḡur a féar.

58.

1r feárru éan amám ar láim
 'Ná dá ceann ar an tom ;
 Beir ar an nór 1r foirḡe duir,
 Nó mire 'mbannairde ḡo mbéir tú lom.

59.

1r feárru preabán 'ná poll
 Aḡur 1r feárru lom 'na léan,
 Don te 'mbíonn ocrair air ḡac ló
 1r móir an rós fada féim.¹

60.

1r feárru fuirde ar an rḡát
 'Ná fuirde aḡ an ḡclár falaím ;
 Ní móir mo mear ar an onóir
 Muna b'fáḡaim óir airci nó talaim.²

¹ Cf. An focal Manannac "s booiagh yn voght er yn veggan."

² Cf. "ḡan cirt 1r fuair é an clú." Condae mhuis Eó.

57.

There are plenty of palaces poor enough,
 For their gaudy stuff and their bright outside,—
 But flummery and goat's milk are more
 Than a stranger's door, however wide.

58.

Seize on the thing that comes : Beware
 Lest life should leave you bare, like me ;
 A bird in the hand is always better
 Than any two birds upon the tree.

59.

A patch is better than is a hole,
 Better go naked than go in fear ;
 To the man who is hungry every day
 Even potatoes will make good cheer.¹

60.

What is the use of an empty honour,
 That brings no land nor golden hoard. ! ²
 I would seat myself in the shadow sooner
 Than take a seat at a foodless board.

¹ Cf. The Manx saying "The poor is thankful for a little."

² Cf. "Without a treasure (*literally*, "chest" or exchequer) fame is cold."—Mayo.

61.

An té naé d'cuḡair aipe d'ó
 1r é 1r mó do cuis do éiríde ;
 1r ḡeipe fúil inr an cúl
 'Ná d'á fúil ar fearó an tḡe.

62.

1é do fáit aḡur ól do fáit
 Sm í an cōmairle mair, dar fiaó,
 1r 1r iomḡa lá b'ear cū ar c'aoiḡ an teampuil
 aḡur ní iarrfearó do d'annḡal biaó.

63.

1r minic ar an r'p'ir ḡoirim
 C'áinḡ r'oirim nó mōir-éit,
 1r minic do b'í cū mall rona
 aḡur cū dona ḡo mair 'n a p'it.¹

64.

Ná lean do'n mōirp'ir
 Ná t'p'or le cōmarram
 Cuir r'laét ort f'én aḡur ar ḡac aénp'ur ;
 1r r'ó d'ear an c'aoi
 B'eit ḡan f'ior an d'ḡe,
 aḡur ní corḡar a c'oiróce an t-éaḡac.

¹ Cf. " 1r minic do b'í an ḡiánna ḡeanaḡail aḡur an d'ac'ḡail dona." Conḡae Rorcomáin.

61.

The person you may have never known
 Knows you and reads your heart the best ;
 One little eye in the corner 's sharper
 Than all the eyes of all the rest.

62.

Eat you plenty and drink you plenty,
 Surely this counsel is for your good ;
 You'll be many a day in the churchyard lying
 Where never your tongue will ask for food.

63.

How often out of the sky when bluest
 Comes forth the storm or the heavy rain ;
 And the slowest hound is often lucky,
 And the poorest puppy may catch the game.¹

64.

Don't fight your neighbours
 With words like sabres,
 Be well behaved and be free in payment
 Beware of law
 And its ravening maw,
 And grudge no money for decent raiment.

¹ Cf. "The ugly was often lovely and the handsome hateful."—
 Co. Roscommon.

65.

Luać pişne 'de'n 'uige

1r é rin curó an 'uine boict.

Ná şab cum 'uige şan ór bpeáş buróe

péac an éaoi 'bful mipe anoct.

66.

An t-am aş pleammuşab éarraiinn

'S an t-ocpar o'ár şcriáb ;

Má congşaiş na mná an biaó

Níor congşaiş 'Dia an lá.¹

67.

Mar bíonn tú leir an 'uine raibóir

Bí, mar rin, leir an 'uine boct ;

Ná mol aşur ná 'óio-mol 'aoi

Mar ní fáştar 'aoi şan loct.²

¹ Cf.

“ fácaí aşur bainne şéar
aşur obair beaş oá réir.”

aşur ár, “ Capall na h-oibhe an biaó.” aşur ár, “ Soðar
cun an bíó aşur an timceall cun na h-oibhe.”

² an oá rean-focal albanac, “ Cha n'eil saoi gun choimheas,”
aşur, “ Cha n'eil saoi air nach luidh león.”

65.

If for law you are bound with gold go round,
 The ways of the law are most insidious.
 A penn'orth of law, sure that is all
 The poor man gets when he turns litigious.

66.

Day passes for us—poor sinners,
 Keen hunger is on its way;
 Though the women keep back our dinners,
 God hasn't kept back the day.¹

67.

As thou art with the rich and kind,
 Be with the blind, the poor, the halt;
 Don't praise the dunce, nor yet dispraise,
 There is no sage but has his fault.²

¹ Cf. "Potatoes and sour milk and small work in proportion"; and again, "Food is the working horse"; and again, "Trotting to the food, and a long-way round to the work."

² Cf. The Highland saying, "There is no sage without (*i.e.*, beyond) comparison," and "There is no sage on whom some blemish does not lie."

68.

Τά κρυννεατοόρι αζυρ ρζαπατοόρι
 ρεαρ τουδ α'ρ ρεαρ βάν αμεαρζ το ετομνε,
 νί η-ιονανν ραο το να μέαραιβ,
 'νά τρέιτρε το ζαε υιλε ουινε.¹

69.

Μαιτ αν ρεατα ρεατα βυαν,
 ναε μβέριδ 'ζ ιμτεαετ υαιτ 'να ριτ;
 ρεατα μυιце, ρεατα ουινε,
 Αν οά ρεατα ιρ μεαρα αμυιζ.²

70.

Αν μυιλεανν βιορ αζ ρίορ-μειιτ
 Μειιλεανν ρέ μίν α'ρ ζαρθ;
 Αζυρ μυιλεανν Οέ ιρ μυιλεανν ε
 Μειιλεαρ αν βεό αζυρ αν μαρθ.

71.

Αμιαρϋ con ι ηζλεανν ριέιβε
 Αν τ-αμιαρϋ ιρ ζέιρε αρ βιτ;³
 Κορα con αρ μαεαίρε κρυαριδ
 Να κορα ιρ λυαίτε ριτ.

¹ Cf. "νί η-ιονανν ραο το ζαε μέαρι no μέμ το ζαε νεαε."

² Cf. "Fuiligidh gach beathach bhi go math ach mac an duine."
 Ó Albainn.

³ Cf. "Να τρι αμιαρϋ ιρ ζέιρε αρ βιτ, cú ι ηζλεανν, ιολρα ι ζεό,
 nó bean óς αζ Οιρεαεταρ."

Aliter, "Súil na ζαδανν ι ητοιαιζ na τάιρρνε,
 Súil na κίρce ητοιαιζ na ζιράμνε,
 Súil an εαίλιν αζ ιαηραριδ α ζιράδ-ζεαλ,
 να τρι ρύιτε ιρ ζέιρε αρ βιτ."

68.

Some will scatter and some will gather,
 Children play at different plays ;
 All your fingers have different lengths,
 And all your friends have different ways.¹

69.

A lasting pet is a good pet
 That will not fail or fall ;
 But a man-pet and a pig-pet
 Are the worst pets of all.²

70.

The mill that is ever grinding
 Breaks hard and soft as it finds them ;
 And the mill of God is a ceaseless mill,
 And living and dead it grinds them.

71.

The foot of a hound on an open plain
 Is the swiftest foot we know ;
 And the eye of a hound in a mountain-glen
 Is the sharpest eye we know.³

¹ Cf. "Not the same is the length of each finger or the disposition of each man."

² Cf. The Highland saying, "Every beast endures being well off except man." Literally "man's son."

³ Cf. "The three sharpest sights at all, a hound in a glen, an eagle in a mist, or a young woman at an assembly." Also "The eye of the smith after the nail [that he has dropped]. The eye of the hen after the grain, the eye of the girl looking for her lover are the three sharpest eyes at all."

72.

Na fuadaí a d'eir luét a gcáinte
 Ná cloipead' do cáirde uait coiré',
 An fuo naé gcloirfiré an éluar
 Ní cuirfiré pé buairéir ar an gcóiré.¹

73.

An té a bfuil cáil na moódair' air
 Ní'l doéar dó coislaó go meadon lae!
 Ir féidir le Diarmuid cleas a déanamh
 Agus ní asrócaíó éinne air é.

74.

Cuir briú agus cuir éiréad
 Agus dúéradé géar inr gac fuo;
 Muileann as meilt cáta,
 Nó más urmaíóte faoi an bplóir.

75.

Do péir breágaó an cúmhóis
 Meartar an leabhar go minic,
 'Sé an biaó an gpreágaó
 Agus 'pé an t-éadóac an duine.

¹ Cf. "An fuo naé gcloirfiré do éluar ní buairéir pé caint arao."

72.

Things that their enemies say about them
 Let not your neighbours hear from you ;
 The thing that ear will never hear
 There is no fear that the soul shall rue.¹

73.

The man who is famed for early rising
 May sleep till noon and none suspect ;
 So Dermot can trick—it is surprising—
 And make his tricks to take effect.

74.

Whatever you do you should do in earnest ;
 Be vigorous in your own behalf ;
 But praying your prayer beneath your blankets—
 It's like a mill to be grinding chaff.

75.

We judge a book by its cover,
 The inside nobody knows ;
 His revelling makes the gallant,
 A man is made now by clothes.

¹ Cf. "The thing that your ear won't hear will knock no talk out of you."

76.

Bíonn a fliúge féin as sácl fíle
 Agus a cáint féin as sácl báird :
 Ní lía tír 'ná gnáir
 A' r ní lía ceann 'ná ceáird.

77

Má bíonn mírneac
 Ní bíonn clirteac
 Agus ní bíonn buaine inr an Óige.
 An rean-maodó
 Do'n bealacl fáda
 Agus an coileán le h-asairó an bóicéirín.

78.

Ir minic do éirí fear na luaithe
 Fear na cruaithe amacl.
 Ir teann bíor fear sácl tíge
 As fearaí fóir in a teacl.¹

79.

San toul imearú daoine
 Ní féidir a n-aicint,
 Síoda ar Síobán
 A' r preabán ar a h-aclair.²

¹ Cf. "Ir teann sácl coileacl [*aliter* maodó] ar a éairín-dóilíú féin"; agus (ar Albainn), "Is dán cú ar a h-otrach fein."

² Cf. "ní eólar go h-aon-tígear"; agus "Síoda buirde an Síobán 7 síoblacláí ar a h-aclair."

76.

A way of his own has every poet
 And every bard his own way finds ;
 So many lands, so many habits ;
 So many heads, so many minds.

77.

Though there's heart and will
 There is little skill
 In the ways of youth, and there's short endurance.
 The old hound still
 For the long, steep hill,
 But the pup for the valley, with great assurance.

78.

The man of the house is stiff
 In his house, no matter how poor ;
 The man of the ashes will show
 The man of the rick the door.¹

79.

To know people well
 Live under their thatch,
 Where Johanna wears silks
 And her father a patch !²

¹ Cf. "Every cock [*aliter* dog] is stiff on his own dunghill," and the Highland "Every dog is bold on his own dungheap."

² Cf. "There is no knowledge [of men] without living in one house with them," *literally*, "without one-housedness"; also "Yellow silk on Joan, and rags on her father."

80.

Μά τ'αγανν σο πό λυατ αν τ-άθ
 λανταρι é λειρ αν μίο-άθ,
 Ταριτ ρειρεαθ αν οιλ,
 Αγυρ βρόν ρειρεαθ αν ξηαθ'.¹

81.

Αν τέ ναε θ'φουλ αν τ-άθ αρ α έατ
 Νί'λ πέ αρ α έατ νά αρ α μάθαθ,
 Μυρ ράββαλτεαρ αν πέαρ αν λά βρεάξ,
 Νί πέροιρ α ράββαλ αν λά ζαρθ.

82.

Α ουνε ναε κυαιθ το έαρ!
 Νί'λ καθαιρ ι νοάν ουιτ πόρ,
 Μά'ρ μαίτ λεατ το μόλαθ, ράξ βάρ,
 Μά'ρ μαίτ λεατ το έάιναθ, πόρ!²

83.

Νί'λ αίγε αέτ βρεάξα
 Μαρ αρμ ιμ αζαίθ,
 Αν τέ ναε θ'φουλ léim αίγε
 λεαγανν πέ 'n claiθe.

¹ Cf. " 1ρ καοι σο λεόρ έις αν τ-άθ,
 αέτ να τυιλτιθ μόμα αν μί-άθ."

² Cf. " μά πόρανν τυ πόρ ανυραιθ."

80.

If luck come too quickly, I'm thinking
 Ill luck may give it a shove ;¹
 Thus thirst is the end of drinking,
 And grief is the end of love.

81.

The person who is himself unhappy,
 His dog's not happy, his cat's not happy ;
 If the hay isn't saved when the days are fine,
 The harvest will find it unsaved and sappy

82.

Evil will not pass by,
 Misfortune we still must carry ;
 If you wish to be praised—go die,
 If you wish to be blamed—go marry !²

83.

To lies he will keep,
 They're his only defence.
 Where a man cannot leap
 He must level the fence.

¹ Cf. "Thin enough comes luck, but in great floods comes ill-luck."

² Cf. "If you marry, marry last year," equivalent to Punch's celebrated advice on the same subject.

84.

San rlaót aḡur mairiugad
 Ná leis ar do lámhá' é,
 Ní pleamán é an laos
 No go liḡeann a máḡair é.

85.

ḡeobair tú meitil aḡ rabáil coirce,
 ḡeobair tú conḡnam aḡ rómar na cré,
 Aḡt muna nḡeapair tú féim o'anam
 Ní ḡeapair fear eile é.¹

86.

An té ir ḡiorra do'n teampoll
 Ní h-é ir ḡiorra do'n altóir.
 Ir ró mḡnic o'fáḡ an acfuinne
 Duine fiúntaḡ 'na fáilirḡóir.

87.

Ní bíonn fear mór ar nór mion-daime
 A n-iarrann ré leis leir go ráim,
 An náire ir mó fuair fionn ariam
 ḡreim in a béal 'r san ḡreim 'na lámh.²

¹ Cf. "A anam féim ar ḡualaimn ḡaḡ éinne."

² Aliter mar éualar ó ḡeapóro ó maircáda é, "An náire ir mó
 muḡ ar fionn ariam, ḡlome 'na lámh ḡ san ploc a éuirfead ré ann."

84.

If you leave it unpolished
 'Twill fail, I predict it ;
 The calf is not smooth
 Till its mother has licked it.

85.

Help you may get to save your harvest,
 Or to save your stock for a future fair ;—
 You must work at saving your soul yourself,
 None other need hope to help you there.¹

86

Riches leave many a decent fellow
 A good-for-nothing, scarce worth a halter.
 The man whose home to the church is nearest
 Is often the furthest from the altar.

87.

Great men are not like little people,
 Give what they ask : be soft and bland.
 The greatest disgrace Finn ever suffered,—
 A piece in his mouth, and none in hand !²

¹ Cf. "His own soul on the shoulder of everyone," *i.e.*, everyone must bear the burden of his own soul.

² *Aliter*, as I heard from Gerard Murphy, "The greatest disgrace that ever overtook Finn—a glass in his hand, and nothing that he might put into it."

88.

Má tógann tú uait do bóta
 Tadair doo' dume féin é,
 Dá fuirgeaí do uir do éota
 Ir foirge do uir do léine.¹

89.

Éire o' fásbáil
 Agus imteaíct ear ráile,
 —Sin éirge de'n linn
 Agus luíde ar an látaig.

90.

Ní'l coilead ar bit ir lúga le duine
 'Ná coilead a éapn-dailig² féin:
 Na ruadái bíor gac lá im' látair
 Nac beas mo mear oirra rin, mo léan

91.

Ir gnáct an nír ir giorra do'n éporde
 An nír ir giorra do'n béal;
 Ir mairg nac gcuirfeann glar ar a éangair
 Ir mairg a bíor gan céill.

¹ Cf. "Ar do mairge nó ar do céill
 Ná dearmad do dume boct féin."

As ro focal eile ar Condae mhúig éó—

"Déan ruar leir an uairpleaíct agus déan cumann léi,
 Aíct ar do éluair ná bí ruar le do dume boct féin."

Agus "Ge dlú do dhuine a chóta is dlúithe dhá a léine."

² Aliter "a fíráoe féin."

88.

Give your own man your vote,
 Don't let a stranger "do" you ;
 Though near to you is your coat,
 Your shirt is closer to you.¹

89.

Leave Ireland struggling,
 Hie over the flood—
 Rise off the water
 To lie in the mud.

90.

The common things that are round about us
 We pay them only a slight regard ;
 There is no cock that a man thinks less of
 Than the cock that crows in his own farmyard.²

91.

Put a lock on your mouth and close it.
 The tongue will make foolish slips,
 For the thing to the heart that is nearest
 Is the nearest thing to the lips.

¹ Cf. "Whether you are drunk or sober, do not forget your own poor man ;" and also this verse from Co. Mayo :—

"Make up to the nobility, and make companionship with it ;
 But for your ears [English idiom, 'for your life'] do not be cold
 to your own poor man."

Cf. Also the Highland saying, "Though close to a man is his coat, closer is his shirt."

² *Aliter* "his own street," the street being the space in front of the farmhouse, which is often cobbled.

92.

Má cuirfeann tú mé fá choimpege Dó
 Nac maid rin agham féin, san ceao aghao,
 Ir maid Dia fá érócaire,
 Aet ní fahtar bróga san aitheao.

93.

“Ní beaúigeann na briatna na briáire,”
 Sín do lám éugam—nó bí 'do toir.
 Ní'l aghann le dul éun flaitir Dó
 Aet leabairó ir déire an tuine boict.

94.

“Ara! cuir riari é go dtí amárac!”
 —Cómairle boadag na gcor mall—
 Cuir gac nio ar an méir faoa
 Agus béir an méar faoa¹ ró gairio ar ball.

95.

Taighann an cáirde
 'S ní maidtear na riaca.²
 Seacain na cáirdaí
 Seacain an iaraet.

¹ Nó ar “an méar faoa.”

² Cf. an sean-focal, “ní íocann teagmhas riaca.”

92.

You leave me to God's protection—I
 Had that before without asking *you*.
 God's merciful—that I don't deny—
 But its only money will buy a shoe.

93

Food to the poor and alms and kindness,
 Nought else will lead into Heaven's land;
 And "words," as you know, "do not feed the Friars,"
 So close your mouth—or open your hand.

94.

"Arrah put off till to-morrow, what hurry?"
 (Clownish advice of the slow-footed sort).
 Everything's put by them on the "long finger,"¹
 Soon the long finger itself is too short.

95.

Shun gambling and cards,
 Shun borrowing too;
 For your debts you must pay
 On the day they are due.³

¹ "To put on the Long Finger" is the universally known Irish phrase for to procrastinate.

² Cf. "Forgetfulness does not pay debts," *i.e.*, you don't free yourself from them by forgetting all about them.

96.

Dí go móir leir na mnáibh,
 Dí go ráim leó 'r go ciúin,
 Cara na mban láim le tear,
 Cara na bpeap inran gcúil.

97.

Do'n té rin éirígear a mhuirgín féin
 Ir ionduat innctinn doirca dail,
 As rtrócaó an oin o'á eir féin
 Le n-a cur ar eir an duine dail.¹

98.

Ir truaig an leanb é
 Leanb gan mádair,
 Ní binn é a gól
 Ir ní geal é a gáire.

99.

Céile do'n leabair an uairg
 Agus céile do'n truan an bair.²
 An lá ir an oróce, mar deir an file,
 Eatorra pluaid an t-am gan ipár.³

¹ Cf. "ná h-ic ir ná h-eirig cur no leanb."

² Cf. "Deirbáidair do'n bair an corlaó."

³ Cf. "níl roir óá lá acor oróce."

96.

Always keep in the women's favour,
 Be with them courteous, friendly, kind ;
 See how *their* friends sit round the fire,
 While the friends of the men must stand behind.

97.

The man who would pleasure another's people
 Before he looks after his own, is blind ;
 He is tearing the thatch from his own roof tree
 To shelter another from rain and wind.¹

98.

With a motherless child
 There is nothing goes right ;
 It's crying is bitter,
 It's laugh isn't bright.

99.

The Day and the Night eat up the year
 Between them, as the poet saith,²
 The nightly couch is the spouse of the tomb,
 And the nightly sleep the spouse of death.³

¹ Cf. "Don't eat up or refuse [to give] your children's portion to them.]"

² Cf. "There is only a night between two days."

³ Cf. "The Sleep is brother to the Death."

100.

Muna mbéirò tú i mbaile an bhró
 Bí ar an mbaile ir giorra dó!
 Seacáin clampaí, reacáin tlighe,¹
 Seacáin tlighe san raí san rós.

101.

Má bíonn tú tana leis oir beir raímar,
 Tós do ceann ar noul do'n feir,
 Muna bfuil agha aet rocaíde gadaí
 Bí i láir an donaig leir.

102.

Ní h-ionduat an ronaí
 San an donaí na n-oirleagib tríó.²
 Tis an sol moidiú an gáire,
 Tis an ciall t'féir gáirdeacáir ciorde.

¹ Cf. "Téirdeann an tlighe coim donaí do na daoinib aghaí téirdeann
 an bairteac do na ceapcaib."

² Cf. an focal eile seo ar Conrae níuig eó :—
 "ní'l áit a mbíonn an ronaí
 ná a mbíonn cuí de'n donaí."
 Agha ar Albainn :—

"Cha 'n fhacas riamh meaghairn mhór
 Nach raibh na dheidh dubh-bhrón."

100.

Shun law,¹ shun strife, shun cheerless places,—
 As for fasting, do not do it,
 If you can't reach the home of food,
 Be in the home that's nearest to it.

101.

Look as if fat—although you're thin,
 Hold up your chin with lordly air ;
 Though you've nought for the fair but an old buck-goat,
 Take your old goat—*Be in the fair.*

102.

After laughter cometh crying ;
 After joy comes grieving too ;
 Fortune seldom pays a visit
 But misfortune peepeth through.²

¹ Cf. " Law agrees as badly with men as rain with hens."

² Compare this verse from Co. Mayo :—

" There is no place in which is happiness
 That there is not a portion of unhappiness (or misfortune) ;

and this from Scotland :—

" There was never seen great joy
 That there was not grief after it."

103.

Διτριγεαδὸς ὅς

Δὐδὲν γὰρ ἔστιν-διαβόλις κρίσις!

Ուի հ-տողոնաժժ ատրուիչեաժ

Sean-bean rpíonta !

104.

Ἡ ἰ η-δου το τόσταρ καιρεάν,

bó ar bó 'reado cruinnighear rpre,

An té naé scuipeann ruim i mbeagán

Ni riu móran coróce é.¹

¹ Cf. "Is ann as a' bheagan a thig am móran." Ó ALBAINN.

Na riannd ar cùmar féin an céad leat (a) díob, cuirim a n-uimhreacha ríor ann ro d'asur "a" na n-íad. Na riannd ar cùmar féin an dara leat (b) díob, cuirim a n-uimhreacha ríor d'asur "b" na n-íad.

1a, 2a, 3a, 4b, 5a, 6b, 7a, 8b, 9b, 10a, 11a, 12a, 13a, 14b, 15a,
16b, 17a, 18a, 19b, 20a, 21 na ποτὶς γὰ ρηδμαῖοις ἀμήμιν. 22a,
23a, 24a, 25a, 26b, 27a, 28a, 29b, 30a, 31a, 32b, 33a, 34a, 35a, 36a, 37,
an ceat̃mānōt līne amām. 38, ἵσθρι cūmar don līne tē peo, ac̃c
cūmpar dā leat̃-manm lecēle. 39a, 40a, 41a, 42a, 43b, 44a, 45b, 46a,
47b, 48a, 49a, 50b, 51a, 52b, 53a, 54a, 55a, 56b, 57b, 58b, 59b, 60b, 61a,
62a, 63a, 64a, 65b, 66a, 67a, 68a, 69a, 70b, 71b, 72a, 73b, 74a, 75a,
76a, 77a, 78b, 79a, 80a, 81b, 82a, 83 an τρῑσμάτ̃ līne amām. 84a,
85a, 86b, 87a, 88a, 89a, 90b, 91b, 92a, 93 an ταρπᾱ līne amām. 94a,
95b, 96a, 97a, 98a, 99b, 100b, 101a, 102b, 103b, 104a.

103.

Old women are natural voteens,¹
 These are no cause for laughter ;
 But a young girl playing the *voteen*
 Will make an old devil hereafter.

104.

Not in one day are castles builded ;
 Fortunes are gathered cow by cow
 And the man who will not heed the Little
 Will never be worth the Much, I trow.”²

¹ Voteen, pronounced “ vote-yeen,” is the Anglo-Irish for one who is “ unco guid ” or “ more Catholic than the Church.” The Irish, however, literally translated, means only “ young penitent.”

² Cf. the Highland proverb, “ It is out of the Little there comes the Much.”

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